

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace paragraph [0024] with the following amended paragraph:

[0024] ~~In still yet another preferred embodiment of the present invention, In a preferred embodiment of the invention, a Ni/metal hydride battery of bipolar stack design includes a plurality of subcells, an electrically conductive wall, and a common gas space two pressure plates.~~ The subcells are disposed in a gastight casing and pressed against each other, wherein each subcell includes positive and negative electrodes, a separator disposed between the positive and negative electrodes, and electrolyte in an amount determined by porosity of the electrodes and separator. The electrically conductive wall is positioned between two adjacent subcells, separates the electrolytes of the two adjacent subcells, and electrically connects the electrodes of the two adjacent subcells to one another. The two pressure plates function as current-discharge poles between which the subcells are disposed. The subcells are permanently pressed against one another in an elastic manner. The subcells form a stack, and the gas space is at the center of the stack. Each of the negative electrodes preferably has a higher capacitance than the corresponding positive electrode. Furthermore, the excess of negative capacitance of the negative electrodes is ~~150 to 250%~~ 50 to 150% of the capacitance of the corresponding positive electrode.

Please replace paragraph [0025] with the following amended paragraph:

[0025] ~~In a further preferred embodiment of the present invention, each In another preferred embodiment of the invention, a Ni/metal hydride battery of bipolar stack design includes a plurality of subcells, an electrically conductive wall, and a common gas space two pressure plates.~~ The subcells are disposed in a gastight casing and pressed against each other, wherein each subcell includes positive and negative electrodes, a separator disposed between the positive and negative electrodes, and electrolyte in an amount determined by porosity of the electrodes and separator. The electrically conductive wall is positioned between two adjacent subcells, separates the electrolytes of the two adjacent subcells, and electrically connects the electrodes of the two adjacent subcells to one another. The two pressure plates function as current-discharge poles between which the subcells are disposed. The subcells are permanently pressed against one another in an elastic manner. The subcells form a stack,

and the gas space is at the center of the stack. Each negative electrode includes a metallic substrate material, wherein the substrate material has a woven fabric and/or an expanded metal and/or a three-dimensional metal structure, and wherein a plastic-bonded compound comprising a hydrogen storage alloy is introduced into the substrate material.

Please replace paragraph [0030] with the following amended paragraph:

[0030] In another preferred embodiment of the present invention, the at least one sealing ring includes porous polytetrafluoroethylene. In further preferred embodiment of the invention, a Ni/metal hydride battery of bipolar stack design includes a plurality of subcells, an electrically conductive wall, and a common gas space two pressure plates. The subcells are disposed in a gastight casing and pressed against each other, wherein each subcell includes positive and negative electrodes, a separator disposed between the positive and negative electrodes, and electrolyte in an amount determined by porosity of the electrodes and separator. The electrically conductive wall is positioned between two adjacent subcells, separates the electrolytes of the two adjacent subcells, and electrically connects the electrodes of the two adjacent subcells to one another. The two pressure plates function as current-discharge poles between which the subcells are disposed. The subcells are permanently pressed against one another in an elastic manner. The subcells form a stack, and the gas space is at the center of the stack. Each wall has a rubber coating on its edges to prevent the electrolyte from leaking through.

Please replace paragraph [0031] with the following amended paragraph:

[0031] In another preferred embodiment of the present invention, the In still further preferred embodiment of the invention, a Ni/metal hydride battery of bipolar stack design includes a plurality of subcells, an electrically conductive wall, and a common gas space two pressure plates. The subcells are disposed in a gastight casing and pressed against each other, wherein each subcell includes positive and negative electrodes, a separator disposed between the positive and negative electrodes, and electrolyte in an amount determined by porosity of the electrodes and separator. The electrically conductive wall is positioned between two adjacent subcells, separates the electrolytes of the two adjacent subcells, and electrically connects the electrodes of the two adjacent subcells to one another. The two pressure plates function as

Application No. 10/019,483

Reply dated April 21, 2004

Response to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated April 14, 2004

current-discharge poles between which the subcells are disposed. The subcells are permanently pressed against one another in an elastic manner. The subcells form a stack, and the gas space is at the center of the stack. The subcells have a porous felt body, and wherein the felt bodies act as a store for excess electrolyte.

Please delete paragraphs [0021], [0023], [0026]-[0029], [0032], and [0034].